

## RCI-10 - Energy Management Training / Training of Building Operators

### Benefit/Cost of Reducing CO<sub>2</sub>e:

Colorado: High reduction potential; Low cost

**Assessment: Medium Priority. Bin B. 17 out of 22 votes.**

This can be a low-cost option with important GHG reduction benefits, but training building operators can be difficult due to the complexity of building systems and skill requirements involved.

This policy option would involve the State taking an active role in supporting facility energy management training. In addition to building operator training, this option could also include benchmarking and tracking energy use to assist in identifying opportunities for savings. An energy profile evaluates a property's potential for energy savings. This information also helps determine baseline energy performance and can be used to benchmark a building's performance against comparable properties.

An energy accounting system records information from the energy profile over time. An energy accounting system is generally kept in a simple spreadsheet or tracked through computer software. Buildings equipped with an energy management system may be able to use this to automatically generate real-time information for an energy accounting system. Once these systems have been installed, this historical record enables energy managers to later measure program results against baseline performance. It can also indicate when problems arise, such as through abnormally high energy costs related to equipment failure.

Added components of an energy accounting system may include monthly or more frequent energy-use and cost reports, changes in occupancy or facility usage, utility rate schedules, and performance tracking of major equipment systems.<sup>17</sup>

Building Operator Certification (BOC) is a professional development program in the energy efficient operation of building systems to qualify facility professionals for certification. BOC is a growing national program, now in 16 states including Washington, Oregon, California, Illinois, Ohio, New York, New Jersey, and Massachusetts.

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<sup>17</sup> See: Fire Your Power: Commercial Office Buildings, Available at [http://www.fypower.org/bpg/module.html?b=offices&m=Planning\\_an\\_Energy\\_Program&s=Energy\\_Profiles](http://www.fypower.org/bpg/module.html?b=offices&m=Planning_an_Energy_Program&s=Energy_Profiles)